

COURSEY, WILLIAM (?–1685). BORN: probably in Ireland; younger son. IMMIGRATED: in 1649, probably as a minor with his brothers from Virginia. RESIDED: in St. Mary's County; Calvert County, by 1651; Kent County by 1661; Talbot County, by 1662. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: Henry Coursey. BROTHERS: John (?–1661), the sheriff of Kent County in 1657; *Henry Coursey* (ca. 1629–1695); and James, of Lincoln's Inn, Middlesex, England. SISTERS: Jane; Catherine; Ann; and Juliana. MARRIED ca. 1664 Elizabeth. CHILDREN. SON: *William Coursey* (?–ca. 1717/18), who married by 1694 Elizabeth (1658/59–1726), widow of *Vincent Lowe* (?–1692) and daughter of Seth Foster (?–1674/75). PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Protestant. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Mr. on arrival; benefitted from the political prominence achieved by his brother *Henry Coursey* (ca. 1629–1695). OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: planter. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Talbot County, 1666 (Laws). LOCAL OFFICES: acting sheriff, Calvert County, 1658–1659; justice, Kent County, 1661 (quorum), Talbot County, 1661/62–1667, 1670–1674, 1679–1685 (quorum); sheriff, Talbot County, 1667–1669, 1674–1679. MILITARY SERVICE: major, by 1679. WEALTH DURING LIFE-TIME. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: ca. 1,800 acres. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: by August 12, 1685. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £363.8.4 sterling plus 4,000 pounds of tobacco, (including 1 slave and 2 servants). LAND: ca. 3,000 acres.

COURSEY, WILLIAM (?–ca. 1717/18). BORN: after 1664 in Talbot County; only son. NATIVE: second generation. RESIDED: in Talbot County; Queen Anne's County after 1707. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: *William Coursey* (?–1685). MOTHER: Elizabeth. UNCLE: *Henry Coursey* (ca. 1629–1695). FIRST COUSIN: *Henry Coursey* (1662–1707). MARRIED by 1694 Elizabeth (1658/59–1726), widow of *Vincent Lowe* (?–1692); daughter of Seth Foster (?–1674/75). Her half brother was *John Hawkins* (ca. 1657–1717). CHILDREN. Died without progeny. PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate, probably educated in England. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Anglican. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: second generation burgess; in England at time of his father's death, 1685; Gent., by 1694. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: planter. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Talbot County, 1696–1697 (elected to the 7th session) 1702 (election to the 3rd session voided); Upper House, 1704 (appointed by the 5th session), 1704–1707, 1708A, 1708B–1711, 1712–1714 (absent the

1st and 2nd sessions), 1715, 1716–1717 (died before the 3rd session). OTHER PROVINCIAL OFFICE: Council, 1703/4–1717/18. LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Talbot County, 1694–1703/4 (quorum); St. Paul's Parish Vestry, Talbot County, 1694–1699/1700. MILITARY SERVICE: major, by 1707; colonel, 1707–1717/18. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: opposed the revolution of Protestant Associators in 1689; achieved first offices under Gov. Francis Nicholson. WEALTH DURING LIFE-TIME. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: ca. 5,000 acres; 1,500 acres from his wife's dower. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: will probated on February 3, 1717/18. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £449.16.3 (including 8 slaves). LAND: over 3,000 acres; probably over 5,000 acres.

COURTS, JOHN (1655/56–1702). BORN: in 1655/56 in Charles County; first son. NATIVE: second generation. RESIDED: in Charles County. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: John Courts, Sr. (?–1702), who immigrated in 1639 as an indentured servant, but later became a substantial landowner. MOTHER: Margaret, who immigrated by 1649 as an indentured servant. BROTHER: Hugh. SISTER: Margaret (1665/66–?). NATURAL SISTER: Elizabeth (1663–?), who married *James Keech* (ca. 1651–1708/9). MARRIED Charity (?–1703), daughter of *Robert Henley* (ca. 1617–1684). She subsequently married *John Contee* (?–1708). CHILDREN. SONS: *John Courts* (1691/92–1747/48), who married Elizabeth; Henley (?–ca. 1712); Charles; and William. DAUGHTERS: Ann (1693–?), who married John Rogers; Charity (1680–1711), who married first, Bayne Smallwood (?–1709), son of *James Smallwood* (ca. 1639–ca. 1714/15), and second, in 1710 *Daniel Dulany* (1685–1753). PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Anglican. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: his marriage brought upward social mobility, with first offices coming shortly after his father-in-law's death. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: wheelwright; planter; merchant. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Associators' Convention, Charles County, 1689–1692; Grand Committee of Twenty, 1690–1692; Upper House, 1692–1693, 1694–1697, 1697/98–1700, 1701–1702 (died before the 4th session). OTHER PROVINCIAL OFFICES: Council, 1691–1702; joint commissary general, 1699–1700. LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Charles County, 1685–1692; coroner, Charles County, 1692; William and Mary Parish Vestry, Charles County, 1693–1697. MILITARY SERVICE: captain, 1689–1695; colonel, 1695–1702. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: His active role in the revolution of 1689 promoted